

03500.017666

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Unassigned
TAKAHARU KONDO, ET AL.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Appln. No.: 10/693,914)	
	:	
Filed: October 28, 2003)	
	:	
For: ZINC OXIDE FILM,)	
PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICE MAKING :	:	
USE OF THE SAME, AND ZINC)	
OXIDE FILM FORMATION	:	
PROCESS)	March 29, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed Japanese documents are enclosed.

The Japanese documents are discussed at pages 2 to 7 of the specification, and English-language abstracts for the Japanese documents are enclosed. U.S. Patent No. 5,804,466 is believed to be an English-language counterpart of Japan 10-140373; and U.S. Patent No. 6,576,112 is believed to be an English-language counterpart of Japan 2002-167695.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Applications:

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group Art Unit</u>	<u>Attorney Docket No.</u>	<u>Applicants</u>
09/244,163	February 4, 1999	2811	03500.013307	H. Shiotsuka I. Kataoka S. Yamada S. Kiso H. Zenko
10/101,859	March 21, 2002	2812	03500.016301	T. Kondo S. Okabe K. Moriyama T. Yajima T. Shishido
10/616,937	July 11, 2003	1775	03500.017405	T. Kondo H. Tamura A. Yasuno N. Toyama Y. Sonoda M. Iwata A. Nakayama Y. Miyamoto

A copy of each cited Application is enclosed.

FORMAL MATTERS

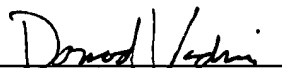
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Office Action on the merits of the subject application has not yet been issued, neither a statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) nor payment of a fee is believed to be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants
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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date submitted to PTO: March 29, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017666		APPLICATION NO. 10/693,914	
				APPLICANT TAKAHARU KONDO, ET AL.			
				FILING DATE October 28, 2003		GROUP Not Yet Assigned	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	6,414,236 B1	07/02/2002	Kataoka et al.	136	251		
	6,515,216 B2	02/04/2003	Zenko et al.	136	244		
	6,576,112 B2	06/10/2003	Sonoda et al.	205	155		
	6,653,165 B2	11/25/2003	Kondo et al.	438	73		
	5,486,238	01/23/1996	Nakagawa et al.	136	259		
	5,770,463	06/23/1998	Nakagawa et al.	437	2		
	5,660,646	08/26/1997	Kataoka et al.	136	251		
	6,172,296 B1	01/09/2001	Iwasaki et al.	136	256		
	6,113,718	09/05/2000	Yamada et al.	156	78		
	5,578,141	11/26/1996	Mori et al.	136	251		
	5,718,772	02/17/1998	Mori et al.	136	251		
	6,320,115 B1	11/20/2001	Kataoka et al.	136	251		
	5,800,631	09/01/1998	Yamada et al.	136	251		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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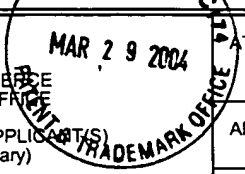
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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,175,075 B1	01/16/2001	Shiotsuka et al.	136	251	
		6,472,248 B2	10/29/2002	Shiozaki et al.	438	97	
		6,544,877 B1	04/08/2003	Sonoda et al.	438	609	
		6,576,112 B2	06/10/2003	Sonoda et al.	205	155	
		6,660,931	12/09/2003	Toyama et al.	136	256	
		6,664,597	12/16/2003	Takeyama et al.	257	347	
		6,693,237	02/17/2004	Zenko et al.	136	251	
		5,804,466	09/08/1998	Arao et al.	438	95	
		2003/0104664 A1	06/05/2003	Kondo et al.	438	200	
		2003/0075717 A1	04/24/2003	Kondo et al.	257	64	
		2002/0166581 A1	11/14/2002	Kondo et al.	136	258	
		2003/0153165 A1	08/14/2003	Kondo et al.	438	478	
		2002/0117661 A1	08/29/2002	Kondo et al.	257	21	

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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,684,325	11/04/1997	Kataoka et al.	257	433	
		6,307,145 B1	10/23/2001	Kataoka et al.	136	251	
		5,981,934	11/09/1999	Higashikawa	250	214	
		5,973,258	10/26/1999	Shiotsuka et al.	136	252	
		6,034,323	03/07/2000	Yamada et al.	136	259	
		6,133,522	10/17/2000	Kataoka et al.	136	259	
		6,316,832 B1	11/13/2001	Tsuzuki et al.	257	747	
		6,133,061	10/17/2000	Sonoda	438	69	
		6,488,995 B1	12/03/2002	Nishimoto et al.	427	574	
		6,252,158 B1	06/26/2001	Higashikawa	136	258	
		6,162,986	12/19/2000	Shiotsuka et al.	136	244	
		6,544,877 B1	04/08/2003	Sonoda et al.	438	609	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		2002-167695	06/11/2002	Japan			Abstract
		10-140373	05/26/1998	Japan			Abstract
		3273294	08/27/1996	Japan			Abstract
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